

YATES TRIBUTE

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2000

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, the late great Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Every man must decide if he will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness. This is the judgment. Life's most urgent and persistent question is what are you doing for others?" If service is the judgment, then heaven's gates have greeted the late Congressman Sidney R. Yates with open arms. Mr. Yates spent his life tirelessly, shamelessly, and unselfishly advocating for others who would have otherwise gone unheard. Our country would be a much better place if we all did.

Although our nation is a great one, it has not . . . because our laws and our statesmen, have not, always served the interests of certain persons and certain disciplines very well. However, in his more than sixty years of public service, Sidney Yates always did. I applaud him as a protector of the arts, a protector of the environment, a protector of children, and a protector of civil rights. His advocacy in these areas has never wavered.

I do not merely regard Mr. Yates as a great statesman for what he did, but when he did what he did. Sidney Yates has often stood up for people when doing so was not only unpopular, but in many instances, taboo. His advocacy for civil rights predates back to the 1940s, even though the Civil Rights Act was not passed until 1964. As the last of the New Deal Democrats and against the persistence of an emerging Grand Old Party majority in the 1990s, he fought to save, and did save, the National Education Association, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the nuclear submarine program. Furthermore, his leadership efforts have saved innumerable national parks and led to the establishment of the National Memorial Holocaust Museum. These are but a few of his contributions. Perhaps even more intriguing than what he accomplished was how he went about his work.

Although Congressman Yates was a hard worker, he, unlike many of us, was a rather silent and modest one. In his close to fifty years on Capitol Hill, he never held a press conference. He never even had a press secretary. He conducted his affairs and gained the trust and respect of his constituents the old-fashioned way. He earned it one act and one handshake at a time.

Although Sidney goes down as a member of Congress who served for the longest period of time, serving twenty-four full terms, his status when leaving the House in 1998 did not reflect that. His service record was interrupted in 1962 when he ran for a seat in the United States Senate for which he was unsuccessful. Although he won his U.S. House of Representatives seat back in 1964, but for his lack of continuity, he ranked 27th on the House Appropriations Committee when he otherwise would have been chairman. Although frustrated, as any of us would be, his manner of working and dedication to the betterment of

life for America's citizens never faltered. A well-deserved honor, in 1993, toward the end of his career, President Clinton bestowed the Presidential Citizens Medal of Honor on Congressman Yates for his efforts on behalf of the arts and humanities.

Mr. Yates' belief has always been "[e]very civilization throughout history, you know, has been judged not by its military conquests but by its civilized achievements." He lived his life with this quote as his guide. Let it guide our lives. As we bid farewell to the great Sidney Yates, may his spirit of service to every American forever live in all of us.

GUAM INSURANCE WEEK

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the governor of Guam has designated the week of November 12–18, 2000 as "Insurance Week." The focus of this proclamation is the Guam Association of Life Underwriters (GALU), a territorial chapter of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA).

Chartered in 1972, the GALU is currently comprised of licensed general agents and subagents of the life insurance industry on the island of Guam. At the very onset of its inception, GALU worked toward bringing the industry together in order to improve the quality of products and services to the people of Guam. Between 1972 until 1990, GALU leaders David Cassidy, Carl Peterson, Charles Paulino, Frank Cruz and Evelyn Blas set the course which the association was to take. Under their leadership and guidance, GALU survived periods of economic slumps.

In the 1990's, past presidents Ben Toves, Frank B. Salas, Jess M. Dela Cruz, and Robert L. Wade Sr., worked toward providing continuing education for licensed agents. Together with the Guam Insurance Commissioner and the University of Guam, GALU made it possible for LUTC life insurance courses to be offered to agents on Guam. LUTC, the premier provider of sales skills training for the life and health insurance industry, enables local agents to achieve their highest potential through professional skills and leadership development training.

GALU's efforts toward the passage of Guam Public Law 25–134 further ensured the promotion of professionalism within the island's insurance industry. The law which requires 15 classroom hours per year for license renewal ensures that members remain in compliance with the rules and regulations of the insurance industry. In addition, personal enrichment among agents is also fostered by these annual sessions.

"Insurance Week" culminates with an induction ball to be held on November 17. At this point, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate GALU's 2000–2001 Executive Officers: Fred Magdalera, President; Bobby Shringi, Vice President; Lourdes CN Ada, Secretary; Danilo S. Cruz, Treasurer; and the Board of Directors: Mercy Alegre, Jess Dela Cruz, Thad Jones, James Moylan, Patrick

Matanane, John Baza and Roger Surban. I am sure that these officers will more than meet the challenge of operating in a rapidly changing environment. As they take upon the responsibilities of their respective posts, I wish these individuals the best for their ensuing terms. As we celebrate "Insurance Week," I commend the Guam Association of Life Underwriters for the excellent service it has provided the island and people of Guam.

IN RECOGNITION OF STATE SENATOR GRACE DRAKE FOR HER SERVICE TO OHIO

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2000

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary member of the Ohio Senate for her outstanding contribution and dedication to the State of Ohio. Senator Grace Drake currently serves as a Senator from Ohio's 22nd Senatorial district, which includes a portion of Cuyahoga County and all of Medina and Wayne counties.

As Chairperson of the Senate Health Committee since 1989, she has received countless awards for her work to ensure access to high quality, affordable health care for all Ohioans. She was also instrumental in the overhaul of Ohio's domestic relations laws, working to ensure that a child's needs are considered the top priority when determining custody.

Senator Drake has received awards and commendations from a wide variety of groups. She has received the Ohio Bar Association Distinguished Service Award, was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, received the President's Award for Distinguished Service from the Ohio Speech and Hearing Association, and she is a four time winner of the Watchdog of the Treasury award from the Unite Conservatives of Ohio. Additionally, she has received numerous awards for her work in the area of health care. The Ohio Hospital Association, the Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes, and the County Boards of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities each have recognized her for distinguished service. She received an Honorary Doctorate in Public Administration from Cleveland State University and an Honorary Masters Degree in Anesthesiology from Case Western Reserve University.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Drake is a caring and effective legislator for the State of Ohio, and more specifically, for her constituents. I ask my colleagues of the 106th Congress to join me in commending her for her seventeen years of service and to wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CARSON COMMENDS THE EINHORN FOR CIVIC VIRTUE

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2000

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to commend to the nation two distinguished